

From: Michael Barnes
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/9/01 3:34pm
Subject: Please punish Microsoft

Please work for the most severe punishment for Microsoft. My choices as a consumer have been restricted and I've been forced to pay for Microsoft products which I've neither wanted nor used. Their practices have caused severe harm to the software industry, and therefor also to consumers, although most consumers are ignorant of this. Microsoft uses it's monopoly position to dominate the industry with mediocre technologies. Because of the way Microsoft uses its monopoly powers we are denied true choice. We do not have the ability to choose the best products or services. It is clear that Microsoft does not see itself as causing harm, and will not change its practices except to the extent which the government will force it. Microsoft will break the agreements it makes with the government whenever it thinks it can get away with it, so there must be a high level of oversight and strong penalties for breaches of the agreement. If you give in too easily now, you will only have to go after Microsoft again, a third time. This would not be good for anyone other than Microsoft.